

COAST GUARD CITY DESIGNATION

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BACKGROUND

In November 1998 a law was enacted (Section 409 of Public Law 105-383) that allowed the city of Grand Haven, Michigan to be called "Coast Guard City, USA". The law also includes a provision for future designations. The provisions include a 90 day notice of intent from the Commandant to two authorizing Congressional committees.

According to Coast Guard documentation "for purposes of future designations of Coast Guard cities, weight will be given to partnerships on local community projects that would be indicative of a robust, on-going relationship between the community as whole and the local Coast Guard units".

IN 2003, WILMINGTON WAS THE FIRST CITY ON THE EAST COAST TO RECEIVE THIS HONOR.

IN 2008, WILMINGTON WAS RECERTIFIED A COAST GUARD CITY.

The Coast Guard City designation has been given to the following other cities in the country:

Grand Haven, Michigan (November 1998)
Eureka, CA (June 2000)
Mobile, Alabama (Jan. 2002)
Morgan City, Louisiana (2002)
Wilmington, NC (2003)
Newport, OR (2005)
Alameda, CA (2006)
Kodiak, AK (2007)
Rockland, ME (2008)
Portsmouth, VA (2009)
Traverse City, MI (2010)

PROCESS:

Former Mayor Harper Peterson submitted the official request to the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard Admiral Thomas Collins on April 1, 2003. The application included documentation of ways that the community has expressed support and appreciation for the United States Coast Guard.

The USCG Commandant then let the two Congressional committees know of his intent to name Wilmington a "Coast Guard City" which started a mandatory waiting period. There was no dissent from the two Congressional committees, thus Wilmington officially became a "Coast Guard City".